

**May 7, 2025  
6:30 PM**

The Arts & Culture Commission Meeting will be conducted on **May 7, 2025** at 6:30 p.m. The meeting location is the Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 2400 Margaret St., North St. Paul.

You can watch the meeting on our YouTube channel here: <https://tinyurl.com/NSPYouTube>

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

Tom Sonnek, Chair  
Carey Nadeau, Vice-Chair  
Amanda Black, Commissioner  
Sharon Clark-Williams, Commissioner  
Raquel Soto, Commissioner  
Laura Strang, Commissioner  
Aliza Verma, Commissioner  
Yued Orozco-Garcia, Student Commissioner  
Troy Woods, Council Liaison

STAFF

Jordyn Lehman

**III. Adopt Agenda**

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

A. Approval of April 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes

**V. Meeting Open to the Public**

*This Open Forum is an opportunity for persons to address the Arts & Culture Commission on items not on the agenda. A completed public comment form should be presented to the staff liaison prior to the meeting. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person. While the Commission may ask clarifying questions of the speaker, no formal action by the Commission or discussion will be held on these items.*

**VI. Public Hearings**

**VII. Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations**

A. Introductions - Ken Roberts  
B. Community Craft Project Discussion

C. Sub-Committee Updates

**VIII. Old Business**

**IX. Reports from Staff**

A. 2025 Budget & Events Calendar

**X. Reports from Commissioners**

**XI. Reports from Council Liaison**

**XII. Adjournment**

**The next regularly scheduled Arts & Culture Commission meeting is Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 6:30 PM.**



To	Date
Arts and Culture Commissioners	May 7, 2025

**Agenda Placement # IV.A**

Approval of Minutes

**Subject**

Approval of April 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes

**Background/Facts**

**Recommended Action**

**Attachments**

1. ACC Minutes 4.2.2025

Respectfully submitted,  
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant



**Arts & Culture Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 2, 2025  
6:30 PM**

North St. Paul City Hall – Council Chambers  
2400 Margaret Street

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Tom Sonnek called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**II. ROLL CALL**

COMMISSION

Tom Sonnek, Chair - Present  
Carey Nadeau, Vice-Chair - Present  
Amanda Black, Commissioner - Present  
Sharon Clark-Williams, Commissioner - Present  
Laura Strang, Commissioner - Present  
Raquel Soto, Student Commissioner - Present  
Aliza Verma, Commissioner - Present  
Yued Orozco-Garcia Student Commissioner - Present

STAFF/LIAISONS

Troy Woods, City Council Liaison - Present  
Jordyn Lehman, Staff Liaison - Present

**III. ADOPT AGENDA**

Chair Sonnek called for a motion to adopt the April 2, 2025 meeting agenda.  
M/Nadeau, S/Black  
Motion carried 7-0.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Approval of March 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Chair Sonnek asked for a motion to approve the March 5, 2025 meeting minutes  
M/Soto, S/Clark-Williams  
Motion carried 7-0.

**V. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no public comments.

**VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were no public hearings.

**VII. COMMISSION BUSINESS, ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

A. Community Craft Project Ideas Discussion

Commissioner Black presented ideas to the Commission for the Community Craft Project. She expressed that her goal was to make a project that people can take home, is oriented more towards teens/adults, does not require a lot of instruction, nor a large investment of time. Ideas presented by Commissioner Black included leather cord bracelets with beads, felt coasters, yarn bowls, and a glass mosaic tile activity. Clark-Williams expressed that parents may find it difficult if the activity is overly long and complicated and felt as though the leather bracelet idea would avoid that. The Commission came to an overall consensus that the activity should be short and agreed they would like to move forwards with the leather cord bracelets and the felt coasters for the Community Craft Project.

B. Sub-Committee Updates

1- Mural Project

Commissioner Clark Williams noted that the Mural Sub-committee had reached out to the Historical Society and the next steps will be creating an outline for a call for artists. Chair Sonnek wanted to clarify that the sub-committee decided to pay the full cost of the North St. Paul Historical Society Mural not just because it is a non-profit but also because of its unique purpose in promoting the City and its history. Moving forwards policy would be to cover up to 50% of the cost of a mural regardless if it is a non-profit or for profit entity. The Commission did not disagree with this decision. Sonnek also proposed that inclusive of the artist speaking with the historical society, prep work, and cost of the supplies that the commission would pay the artist 6k. The commission agreed and felt as though that was a reasonable amount.

2- Utility Boxes

Commissioner Strang stated that the heart hand images have been edited with the colorful background and will be done this week. Commissioner Strang also noted that Commissioner Clark-Williams and she would like to move forwards having a template style call for artist on the website that would note the box's to be wrapped and their dimensions. Commissioner Clark-Williams shared that she will be at the Veteran's park Committee meeting next week to work out final details for the box and that the next big step was to send out the call for artists. The goal is to have the box done by August 15<sup>th</sup> for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Veteran's Park.

3- Art Cart

First Art Cart showing will be at the big truck night.

4- Art Night

Vice-Chair Nadeau noted that all art nights are on the calendar and volunteers are scheduled.

5- Public Arts Project

Vice-Chair Nadeau began the conversation by presenting student commissioner Orozco-Garcia's idea called "bring snowy home" which would feature a snowy that residents could have outside of their home that they could decorate in their own way. Nadeau noted that there are several different materials to consider such as wood, concrete, 3D printing, etc. Commissioner Soto shared that currently they were looking into a North St. Paul business called CaliSota Girl creations who produces wood signs and images and SVJ Creative Designs who they are waiting to hear back from. Commissioner Soto asked the Commission if they had thoughts on having the snowies be free or purchasable. The Commissioners tentatively would like to make the snowies free but also would consider charging a small fee if production costs turn out high.

6- Taste of North St. Paul (Placeholder)

For the Placeholder Event Commissioner Verma presented the idea called "Taste of North St. Paul" where local restaurants would be invited to create a tasting menu for the public to come and enjoy. Commissioner Verma noted that a potential venue could be the new event space at Puzzles. Tentatively



the event will take place in October or early November. Commissioner Verma also noted an idea to have a people's choice award and resident's vote for their favorite dish with variations on the idea such as Mayor's choice, firefighter's choice, etc. Commissioner Black suggested that the African Market downtown could be invited and bring a selection of their grocery items. Commissioner Black also suggested that restaurants participating provide "small bites" rather than a whole cheeseburger or whole doughnut.

Commissioner Verma was unsure of the funding structure and requested the Commission's suggestions but overall she would like to compensate the restaurants so the event was free for residents who would like to participate. Commissioner Clark-Williams suggested making the event ticketed so you pay a flat fee to enter the event. Commissioner Strang noted that it should be a goal to get people to try most if not every vendor at the event rather than their favorites or what is familiar to them. Council Liaison Woods suggested creating a stamp system where every resident receives a stamp for visiting each vendors and once they have visited all vendor they are entered into a raffle which would help encourage residents to try all vendors. Commissioner Black also noted it might be best to schedule the event for a Thursday as opposed to a Friday as that is a busy night for restaurants.

### **VIII. REPORTS FROM STAFF**

Both the 2024 Event Calendar and Budget Update were listed on staff reports.

### **IX. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Soto had no updates,

Commissioner Clark-Williams had no updates.

Vice-Chair Nadeau has no updates

Commissioner Verma shared that the seeding's from pollinator garden are thriving

Commissioner Black had no updates.

Commissioner Strang has no updates.

Chair Sonnek has no updates

Student Commissioner Orozco-Garcia stated that he lost his student council treasure run and plans on running for student council president next year.

### **X. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISON**

Council Liaison Woods noted that the prior Council Meeting included a presentation from the fire department about code enforcement.

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Sonnek asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

M/Verma, S/Strang

Motion carried 7-0.

**The next regularly scheduled Arts and Culture Commission Meeting is Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 6:30 PM.**



To	Date
Arts and Culture Commissioners	May 7, 2025
<b>Agenda Placement # VII.A</b>	
Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations	
<b>Subject</b>	
Introductions - Ken Roberts	
<b>Background/Facts</b>	
Introducing the new Community Development Director Ken Roberts.	
<b>Recommended Action</b>	
<b>Attachments</b>	
None	

Respectfully submitted,  
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant



To	Date
Arts and Culture Commissioners	May 7, 2025

**Agenda Placement # VII.B**

Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations

**Subject**

Community Craft Project Discussion

**Background/Facts**

At the 4/2 ACC meeting, the Commission settled on corded bracelets and felt coasters as the Community Craft Project. It has now been realized that there is another vendor at the Autumn Arts Festival who will be making corded/beaded bracelets. Staff recommends that in order to avoid creating a similar and competing experience with that vendor that the Commission considers other options outside of the bracelets. In addition, staff recommends to discuss how many materials and craft project the Commission thinks will be needed.

**Recommended Action**

**Attachments**

None

Respectfully submitted,  
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant



To	Date
Arts and Culture Commissioners	May 7, 2025
<b>Agenda Placement # VII.C</b>	
Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations	
<b>Subject</b>	
Sub-Committee Updates	
<b>Background/Facts</b>	
<b>Recommended Action</b>	
<b>Attachments</b>	
None	

Respectfully submitted,  
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant



To	Date
Arts and Culture Commissioners	May 7, 2025

**Agenda Placement # IX.A**  
Reports from Staff

**Subject**  
2025 Budget & Events Calendar

**Background/Facts**

**Recommended Action**

**Attachments**

1. Event Schedule Planner 2025
2. 2025 Budget Tracker

Respectfully submitted,  
Jordyn Lehman, Community Development Administrative Assistant

# EVENT SCHEDULE PLANNER 2025

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMISSIONERS
TASTE OF NORTH ST PAUL	Oct/Nov	TBD	TBD	
ART NIGHT (SWETHA)	April 17 <sup>th</sup>	6-8:00 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Nadeau, Verma
ART NIGHT (HEIDI)	May 15 <sup>th</sup>	6-8:00 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Nadeau, Verma
ART NIGHT (SWETHA)	June 12 <sup>th</sup>	6-8:00 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Black
BIG TRUCK NIGHT	June 13 <sup>th</sup>	4:30 PM-8 PM	7 <sup>TH</sup> AVE	
MUSIC IN THE PARKS #1	June 26 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 PM-6:00 PM	HAUSE PARK	
MUSIC IN THE PARK #2	July 17 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 PM-6:30 PM	SILVER LAKE	
MUSIC IN THE PARK #3	August 14 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM-7:30 PM	CASEY LAKE	
AUTUMN ARTS FESTIVAL	September 13 <sup>th</sup>	11 AM -6:00 PM	CASEY LAKE	
ART NIGHT (SWETHA)	September 18 <sup>th</sup>	6-8:00 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Nadeau
ART NIGHT (JEREMY)	October 16 <sup>th</sup>	6-9:00 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Black
ART NIGHT (SWETHA)	November 20 <sup>th</sup>	6-8:00 PM	CASEY LAKE BUILDING	Nadeau

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL							MAY							JUNE							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							
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27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31											
							31																			30																

### Budget Report

BUDGET	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<b>\$1,000 ART CART</b>												
<b>Current Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
<b>\$7,000 UTILITY BOX WRAPS</b>												
<b>Current Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>
<b>\$12,000 MURALS</b>												
<b>Current Total</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>
<b>\$1,000 BRANDING AND COMMUNICATION</b>												
Orange Snowy Card Envelopes			\$	16.98								
<b>Current Total</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 983.02</b>	<b>\$ 983.02</b>	<b>\$ 983.02</b>	<b>\$ 983.02</b>	<b>\$ 983.02</b>	<b>\$ 983.02</b>	<b>\$ 983.02</b>	<b>\$ 983.02</b>	<b>\$ 983.02</b>
<b>\$5,000 PUBLIC ART</b>												
<b>Current Total</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
	<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>
<b>\$2,500 ART NIGHT</b>												
Terracotta Pot Painting with Swetha - 4/17			\$	270.00								
Candle Making with Heidi - 5/15				\$	450.00							
Watercolor Bookmarks with Swetha - 6/12					\$	240.00						
Watercolor Greeting Cards with Swetha - 9/18								\$	240.00			
Hand Knit Chunky Blanket with Jeremy - 10/16										\$	1,050.00	
Mandala on Coasters with Swetha - 11/20											\$	240.00
<b>Current Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,230.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,780.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,540.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,540.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,540.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,300.00</b>	<b>\$ 250.00</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>